

House Engrossed

universities; water rights adjudication

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HOUSE BILL 2231

AN ACT

REPEALING SECTION 15-1647, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 15-1647; RELATING TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Repeal

3 Section 15-1647, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.

4 Sec. 2. Title 15, chapter 13, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
5 is amended by adding a new section 15-1647, to read:

6 15-1647. Water rights adjudication; cooperative extension;  
7 establishment; assistance; annual report

8 A. TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY COURT RULE, A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE  
9 JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS MAY OFFER PRO BONO ASSISTANCE  
10 TO CLAIMANTS WHO ARE SMALL LANDOWNERS IN THE GENERAL STREAM ADJUDICATION  
11 OF WATER RIGHTS FILED PURSUANT TO TITLE 45, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 9 AND WHO  
12 ARE NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL. A UNIVERSITY THAT OFFERS ASSISTANCE  
13 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION MAY REPRESENT A CLAIMANT IN THE ADJUDICATION  
14 UNTIL THAT CLAIMANT PROCEEDS TO AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING OR TO SOME OTHER  
15 CONTESTED PROCEEDING THAT IS SIMILAR TO A TRIAL. IF THE CLAIMANT HAS NOT  
16 SETTLED THE CLAIM, THE UNIVERSITY MAY NOT REPRESENT THAT CLAIMANT AT AN  
17 EVIDENTIARY OR SIMILARLY CONTESTED HEARING.

18 B. ANY UNIVERSITY THAT OFFERS ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A  
19 OF THIS SECTION SHALL COOPERATE AND COORDINATE WITH THE FACULTY OF A  
20 COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IN THIS STATE THAT HAS A PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE  
21 ECONOMIC VITALITY OF RURAL COMMUNITIES AND THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN  
22 THOSE RURAL COMMUNITIES.

23 C. ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, A UNIVERSITY THAT OFFERS  
24 ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN  
25 REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY'S ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES TO THE GOVERNOR, THE  
26 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE  
27 AND SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

28 Sec. 3. Emergency

29 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the  
30 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by  
31 law.